

June 22, 2010

Michigan Judiciary Committee
Chair, Representative Mark Meadows
Email: mabdul@house.mi.gov
Fax 517-373-7158

Regarding: HB 4518, HB 4594, HB 4595 & HB 4596 **OPPOSITION**

Dear Michigan Judiciary Committee Chair & Members,

I know there is a big movement across the USA to remove the Life without Possibility of Parole Sentence (JLWOP) from violent juvenile murderers under the age of 18. Plus we have those who want to make it retro-active to juveniles who are already serving time with a LWOP sentence for a BRUTAL MURDER they have chosen to commit. Juvenile LWOP is reserved for the most violent murderers under the age of 18 down to 16 here in California. Judges now have the discretion to sentence juvenile killers to LWOP or 25 to life.

I can not stress to you enough that this legislation is a RE-VICTIMIZATION and INSULT across the country to future Homicide Victim Survivors of VIOLENT Murder committed by juveniles. For this legislation to be RETRO-ACTIVE is a real INJUSTICE and SLAP IN THE FACE to survivors who have had a loved one brutally murdered by juveniles who are now serving LWOP sentences.

We survivors walked out of the court room at sentencing with the killer of our loved one receiving LWOP, thinking that our loved one received justice and we would not have to worry about the killer again...Little did we know that we really have to watch legislation all the time, real liberals and legislators do not seem to care about the survivors, just the poor little children who have made a very serious choice. In fact you never hear anything about how the survivors would feel if this passes. Have you tried to find all the victim survivors in your state to ask them how they would feel about the killer of their loved one having his/her sentence reduced and possibly released?

Survivors who have had a loved one murdered by a juvenile are not being informed of this movement and will be in shock when they do find out of this sentence change. To start attending parole hearings will rip apart the survivor's families again.

I know the Death Penalty for violent juvenile killers has been abolished and now bleeding hearts are trying to abolish LWOP for juveniles. The bleeding hearts are also trying to abolish the Adult Death Penalty and then they will surely try to abolish Life without Parole for adults.

What you are telling violent killers regardless of age is that they have the right to be free again and there is no RESPONSIBILITY / CONSEQUENCES for the bad choice they

made to take another humans life. When you take another life, you loose your membership in society. There are some people in our society that never need to be released, a Violent / Brutal murderer is one of those people.

My husband Ross was brutally beaten on April 28, 1993 with a metal pipe in his place of business by two juveniles. Damion Miller, age 15 years 8 months street name 9 as he could get 9 MM hand guns for others. He was then 4 months short of being tried as an adult and it was his third strike but he gets to start over. Damion has been free from the day before he turned 25. He makes no attempt to pay his restitution that was ordered.

His partner, Kristopher Kirchner was two months over 16 and tried as an adult. His street name was 187 insane. He was charged with First Degree Murder with Special Circumstances as these two robbed my husband's business. Kirchner was sentenced to LWOP, which is the same sentence they gave my husband without a Judge or Jury.

They held my husband down on the floor of his business and beat him over the head with the metal pipe. He had 25 Skull Fractures, one the size of a 50 cent piece that could not be put back together. Ross was in a coma for 41 days before passing away on June 7, 1993. I can tell you more horror stories of brutal juvenile murders

I ask you to have more consideration for the Homicide Victims SURVIVORS of Violent Juvenile Killers, DO NOT RE-VICTIMIZE THEM and DO NOT PASS THESE BILLS!

OUR LOVED ONES DO NOT GET A SECOND CHANCE AND NEITHER DO WE!

Sincerely,

Maggie Elvey
7573 Greenhaven Dr. Apt 200
Sacramento, CA 95831
916-476-6475
National Organization of Victims of Juvenile Lifers
www.jlwopvictims.org

CC: Jody Robinson